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[From the New York Tribune.]

The passion for diamonds is increas-

ing. Probably at no previous time in the history of the American world of ashion were so many of these precious stones worn as now, nor so large a proportion of them of such excellent quality. Here and there the popular taste may select the fanciful gem-tourmaline or zircon-but the fire glancing from the facets of a diamond has a charm for Finest Beer the multitude not possessed by any other er gem. Most of the diamonds come from the Cape of Good Hope, a few from Brazil, and some from Siberia and Borneo. The discovery of the African diamonds six or seven years ago upent the WHICH I OFFER FOR SALE BY THE market but it has since recovered its equilibrium. Merchants in this city claim that imitation diamonds have not materially injured their interests. Such stones depend upon the glare of gaslight to avoid detection, as sunlight readily Gallon, Bottle, exposs their real character. The demand for tine stones is increasing, and for stones finer cut than it is generally possible to obtain in Europe, Many cut in prismatic proportions, and have to be cut over by American workmen to bring out their real beauty. A dismond has thirty-six facets on top and twentyfour facets below. If the distance from the "table" to the "color" is more than one-third of the stone, its "life" is lost and it should be recut. The bottom of a good diamond tapers almost to a point in the cutting which is finally taken off. Of all the diamonds the white translucent stone that is free from flaw and perfectly cut is the most valuable. Pink dismonds are rare, but bright yellow, brown and jet black diamonds may be easily found in the market. While a dull tint injures a white dismond, a marked color of red or green adds considerably to its value. Ninetenths of the blue diamonds are milky, while all the fine white stones have just

a suggestion of blue in their composi

Diamonds cost more than they did ten years ago. A perfect brilliant of the first water is worth about \$50; onehalf carat, \$175; one carat, \$550; two earsts, \$800. Diamonds of a larger size bring whatever may be obtained from the purchaser, as no fixed price can be stated. As a diamond loses nine-twennieths of its weight in cutting, the value of a rough diamond may be calculated tioned. Diamonds imperfect or thin are usually reduced to powder or utilized in tools for drilling purposes. Three-carat quently paid \$300 a carat for something fine," said a Broadway diamond merchaut. "Diamonds are like horses, there's no market value for them. No dealer ever sold a good gem cheep. In war times you might pick up a dismond a trifle chespor than now, but to-day, if you want a good diamond, you must pay a good price for it. You may buy a one-carat diamond for \$100, but it will be nothing extra-no gem. The large solitaire diamond is now preferred to the cluster. Few diamonds are worn by gentlemen except in the case of young men anxious for display. Here and there a gentleman will wear solitaires on his shirt bosom, but if he has good taste he will be careful that they are small, or he may be taken for a gambler. It is astonishing how much money is represented in the diamonds worn by ladies on a 'swell' occasion. It is a common thing in New York society to see \$19,000 or \$20,000 in diamonds on a lady's person. Mrs. John Jacob Astor has been known to wear \$50,000 worth of diamends at an evening reception, Mrs. Mackay, wife of the 'B nanze King, once offered to buy the famous Regent' diamond, the most valuable in

the world. It is valued at a mere million, but the French Government wouldn't When a diamond is over five or six carats in size it is not calable. Halphen, the famous diamond cutter of Paris, has had in his possession the South Star' diamond, 125 carats, for thirty years and has not been able to find purchaser for it, although his price is only \$375,000. It is very hard to get rid of these extraordinary stones. An importer in Joan street had two stones, each twenty carats, in the market for years and has been unable to sell them." "How are diamonds prepared for the market?"

"Well they are found, as you know, in alluvial deposits and are extracted by washing. They are cut by cleaving the Then two of them are rubbed together until they receive a shape in the rough. The next step is to finish them carefully by grinding on a revolving disk of soft steel which is covered with oil and dismond dust, Most diamonds are cut in the shape of brilliants and some in the form of a rose having a flat bottom and an upper surface of tiny facets and ending in a

PONK VN. RELIGION. In Japan the use of nearly every kind

animal flesh as food is prohibited by eligion. It seems that the flesh of the leer and the wild boar are excepted, but hese animals are found only in remote egions and in small numbers, so that out few of the people are benefited by he exception. The population of Jaan is 36,000,000. Reliable statistics how there are, in the whole country, but out 1,000,000 head of cattle. Nearly salf of these are bulls, whose emasculaion is not permitted, and whose flesh is, herefore, unfit for food. This leaves bout 600, 00 cows, not more than half

than one head to every 100 people, while in the United States there are seventythree head to 100 people. Last year 36,000 cattle were slaughtered, more than half of which were used by foreigners in the cities and on the ships in the harbors. From these facts it is clear that among the masses of the people beef is almost unknown. Mutton and pork are still more scarce, and are never seen except in the ports where treaties with other countries permit their im-

The religious inhibition does not extend to fish or to poultry. The latter is abundant, but so high in price that only the rich can afford its use, and it forms no part of the diet of the common people. Fish is abundant in great varieties, in all the streams of the country, and is the only article, not of vegetable nature, which forms a staple of daily The great poculiarity of the Japanese.

portation.

among all the patiens of the earth, is that they are vegetarians. Full 90 per cent, of all their food consists of vegetable productions. Rice is the great dismonds brought to America are not staple, barley is next and then follow millet, wheat, rye and Indian corn. They have many vegetables of the highest value as articles of diet, which are unknown to us, and efforts are now in progress to introduce some of these into this country. Until within a few years past, Japan

has stubbornly refused to admit foreign commerce to her ports, or to permit any kind of commercial intercourse between her people and those of other nations. Even yet, but few of her ports are open to the world, but the advantages of reciprocal trade will soon unlock the rest. She affords a wast field for commercial anterprise, and it remains to be seen whether her religious scruples can withstand the blandishments of savory cheap meats, which other countries, and especially our own, will rapidly supply. There is an impending conflict between religion and pork, and, unless there is interference by the villainous trichina, pork is certain to win,-Indianapolis

An agricultural paper has an article on kicking cows. It is hard to imagine a man who can be so mean as to go around kicking those useful and inoffensive animals, but we suppose there are such wretches or the article wouldn' have been written,

Incident of Lincoln's Murder.

"Those are not cheerful-looking things, are they?" said Counselor M. A. McDonald, as he sauntered into the ofpointed to a pair of handcuffs which were lying upon the table.

"Not especially enlivening," replied a deputy, picking up the rogue's bracelets and examining them thought-"There was a time when I thought they were the most cheerless and torrible things in the world."

The deputy looked up in surprise, "Yes," continued Mr. McDonald, " had them both on my hands and feet at once for a number of hours. I assure you they are not pleasant things to

"Were they put on to keep you a prisoner?" queried the deputy, wonder-ing if his friend could have done auy-"You would have thought so had you been in my place. I was arrested by officers who thought I was J. Wilkes

Booth. "No!" ejaculated the deputy, more as an expression of surprise than an in-tentional reflection upon the veracity of Mr. McDonald.

"It came about in this way," began the lawyer, whose dark hair and eyes, even now that sixteen years have passed, bear a striking resemblance to the assessin of Lincoln: "Lincoln had been murdered but a few days, and the entire country plunged in grief, was wild with desire fo revenge upon the murderer. My homewas in Tituaville, Pa., and I was on the way to it from Washington, where my father was then a Government contractor. The route was by way of Erie. The train had left Erie and gone perhaps a dozen miles, when a couple of officers surprised me by putting me under arrest and clapping handcuffs on my feet. In vain I protested. They would not believe that I was not Wilkes Booth. To add to the unpleasautness of the thing, and a fact which also gave color to the belief that I was the President's assassin, it was well known that Booth had interests in the oil regions of Pennsylvania, and had been there a number of times. The men who arrested me did so upon the strength of my great resomblance to a picture of Booth which they had in their possession. When it became known on the train that the assassin of Lincoln had been arrested and was on that very officers who were guarding me had all they could do to prevent the infuriated passengers from doing me bodily harm. It had been telegraphed along the line of the road that Lincoln's murdarer was under arrest, and would pass through on his way to Titusville. At every station the train was met by infuriated men who climbed upon woodpiles to get a glimpae of me, and many times on that journey I feared that the mob would get possession of me. When the train reached Curry there was a man boarded the train who knew me. But the officers would not listen to him, and it was not until Titusville was reached, where every man, woman and child knew me, that the handcuffs and manacles were removed from my wrists and ankles, and I was allowed my liberty. I have the photo-graph which furnished the clew to the officers who arrested me in my posses

France expends \$159,000 annually in the purchase of native horses in Algeria for cavalry use, beside awarding prizes to breeders and supporting studs. The horses of Algeria are not good-looking, but they are serviceable and bear immense fatigue. The Arabs continue to prefer mule-rearing to horse-breeding. The mule is more easily reared, fetches a higher price, and often commences work at the age of 18 months.

sion now."-Denver Tribune.

GOSSIP FOR THE LADIES.

Sounds Familiar.

"I love you, little sweetheart,"
He in tender accents said.
"And I love you, too," she answered,
As she bent her pretty head.
And the stars looked down from heaven
On the charming tetes-bete,
As the pair of youtiful loves
Gently awang upon the gate.

Yes, I love you," she softly murmured, Looking up at him again.

Holy macherel! Gos Moses is
Answered he in direct pain,
for, ains! we never knew the
Ingonity of fate,
and love that he raye us often
To a smarked chumb in the gate.

Walungu Widows When a Walungu chief dies a most When a Walungu chief dies a most barbarous custom prevails. All his wives (and they are always numerous) with one exception, together with his headman, are killed and buried with him. A worse fate awaits the one not killed. A hole, just sufficient to hold her, is dug. In this she is piaced, and then covered over, leaving only a small aperture, through which she breathed, and by which a spear passes down into her hand. At the end of the second day of burish, if it is found that she has survived this horrible incarceration, and vived this horrible incarceration, and that she still holds the spear, she is taken out and allowed to live. If she is dead, or gives no sign, then there is no further need of burial, and so the matter is finished.

Eve, it is well known, was 16 years of age when she was awakened by the side of her huzband. Sixteen years old, say ancient writers, and that so bold that they must have seen Eve's register writ-ten upon the lilies of paradise. Now women, who have nine times out of ten more curious rabbinical learning than more curious rabbinical learning than the mean envy of our sex will allow them; women, inheriting the privilege from their first parent, believe that, after a certain time, they have a just right to let their first sixteen years go for nothing; and so they sink their first sixteen with a smile, counting with Mother Eve their soventeenth as their first real birthday. And they are right. For it deducts from your women of five-and-forty all that she cares to lose, giving her a fair start with Eve, and pegging her back to full-blown nine-and-twenty. And indeed it is impossible that any And indeed it is impossible that any really charming woman should be a day older.

A naughty writer in the Boston Transcript says: "Women are fond of being ill and taking medicine. They would be angry if a physician should say to them: 'Nothing alls you, madam, if you only think so.' They prefer to think themselves sick, and in time really become so, for nature, though she struggles bard, cannot stand everything. Too many drugs will finally destroy her healing power. These people love to have a little box of white pills in bottles and a little book, all kept in some handy place, so that when a friend who has eaten too much dinner says, 'Oh, I am fearfully nervous!' they may run for the little book, look for 'nervousness,' and administer so many pills of bryonia.

When they have a headache, instead of dieting or eating more moderately, they take several drops of some nice poison.

Their children catch a slight cold and

After reading these painfully idiotic are immediately shut up in a close room and dosed with sconite and bellado nourishment of mince pie, doughnuts, etc. The doctor comes, smiles, tells a story, leaves more drops of aconite and beliadonna in a tumbler, and, after a while, nature being beneficent, the children get well,"

Remarks at Weddings. The following remarks have mostly

been said time after time at all our "tony" weddings, and will be said "tony" weddings, and will be said again and again on every such occasion:
Here she comes!
Pretty, inn't she?
Who made her dress?
Is it Surah silk or astin?
Is her veil real lace?
She's as white as the wall!
Wonder how much he's worth?
Did he give her those diamonds?
He's scared to death!
Ian't she the cool piece?
That train's a horrid shape
Isn't her mother a dowdy?
Aren't the bridesmaids homely?
That's a bandsome raher!
Harn't shea cute little hand? Hasn't shea cule little hand?

Wonder what unmber her gloves
They say her shoes are fives.
If his hair isn't parted in the middle!

Wonder what on earth she married his
No his For his money, of course ! Lan't be handsome? Lon't be handsome?
He's as homely as a hedgehog!
He looks like a circus-clown!
No, he's like a denoing-master.
Good enough for her, anyway.
She was always a stuck-up thing.
She'll be worse than ever, now!
She lilted San Somebody, didn't she?
No, he never saked her.
He's left town, anyway.
There, the ceremony has begun.
In't he awkward?
White as his collar!
Why don't they hurry up?
Did she say she would "obey?"
What e-mains feel! a few years ago, he could, all the rules of grammar, It was at the time of the great plague

There, they are matried! Doesn't she look happy? Pity if she wouldn't. (Wish I was in her place!) What a handsome couple! (Wish I was in her place I)
What a handsome couple!
She was always a sweet little thing.
How gracefully she walks!
Dear me what airs she puts on!
Wouldn't be in her place for a farm?
I'll bet those jerzle were hirod.
Weil, she's off her father's hands, at last!
Doesn't she clieg tightly to him, though!
She has a mortgage on him now.
Hope they'll be happy.
They say she's awful smark.
Too smart for him by a jugful!
There, they are gesting in the carriage!
That magnificent dress will be equashed!
The way she does lock at him!
I bot she worships him!
Worship be hanged! she's only making!
love!

It's a kind o' n'ee to get married, isn't it? No, it's a dreal(ni boxo, Wesn't it a stupid wedding?
What dowdy dresses!
I's never go to another!
The just sufficeated!
Tired to death.
Giad it's over!

Anti-Siang Phrases.

The Reform Club is the title of a norganization by young ladies for purpose of discouraging the use "slang phrases" in conversation. At a meeting, while a member was addressing the society, she inadvertently made use of the expression "awful nice," and was called to order by a sister member for

"In what way have I transgressed?"
saked the speaker, blushing deeply.
"You said it would be 'awful nice' to admit young gentlemen to our delibera-tions," replied the other.
"Well, wouldn't it be?" replied the

weil, wouldn't it be? replied the speaker. "You know you said yourself, no longer ago than yesterday, that—"
"Yes, I know; but you said 'awful nice.' That's slang."
"Well," said the speaker tartly, "if you are going to be so awful nice about it, perhaps it is; but I wouldn't say mything if I were you. Didn't you tell sallie Spriggins this morning to 'pull

"No, I didn't," retorted the other, her tace growing crimson; "and Sallis Springins will say I didn't. She won't ge back on me."

go back on me."

"This is a nice racket you are giving us," cried the President, after rapping both apeakers to order. "Let me as't what is the object of this society?"

"To discourage slang?" cried a dozen

voices.
"Correct," said the President, "go on with the funeral."

A member rose to explain that she had been fined at the last meeting for saying "awful nice" herself, but she hadn't the stamps to pay it now—would settle it, however, in the sweet by and-That'll be all right," said the President; "pay when you get the cueata." Another member asked if a young lady

another member asked if a young lady could say "old splendid" without sub-jecting herself to a fine,
"You bet she can't," said the President, who was the original founder of the society, and, therefore, appealed to when any nice question was to be desided.

cided.

"Then," said the speaker, "I move that Mirands Pew come down with the dust, for I heard her say that her beau was ' just old splendid."

"Well, if my beau was such a heirpin as your fellow is, I wouldn't say it."

"Shoot the chinning," said the President; "will you never turable?"

But the confusion was too great to be silayed. Miranda's blood was up; some sided with her and others against, and amid the babel which followed could be heard such exclamations as "Dry up!"

"Nice huckleberry you are!" "Wipe off your chin!" "Hire a hall!" etc. when a motion to adjourn was carried by a large majority.

by a large majority.

There is a vast amount of humbag in the system of common-school education, and it is not strange that many parents are adopting the plan of having their children instructed at home, where they can carefully watch the child's training and see that what time is devoted to instruction is turned to good secount. A disgusted father writes to a Philadelphia journal saying that the other day he heard his little girl sobbing over a rule which she was trying to commit to mem-

ory, in the following words, to-wit: "Rule for short division, rule dash one write the divisor at the left of the dividend, semi-colon, begin at the left hand, comms, and write the quotient beneath, period. Paragraph. 2 H there is a remainder after any division, comms, regard it as prefixed to the next figure, comma, and divide as before, period. If any partial dividend is less when than the divisor, prefix it to the next oh, I am figure, commis, and write a cipher in the quotient, period. Paragraph proof period dash multiply the quotient by the

paragraphs the amazed parent made inquiry and found that the pupils-children under 10-were required to study rules in this way in order that they might be able to write them out and "point" them, not correctly, but ac-

ording to the book. "I also found," he adds, "that if a comma was left out, though the sense remained unchanged, the pupil suffered es much in loss of marks as though she had committed a vital blunder. Thanks to home instruction, my little girl understands the rules of arithmetic, but she cannot learn them by rote in this parrot fashion, and suffers accordingly. Can we have nothing done in this matter to relieve our children from utterly useless memorizing, that leaves them at the end of a few years with weakened minds and no taste for study? I got a letter the other day from a man who had graduated from a university. He could neither write nor spell on (speiling goes 'gose'), and yet at

means an indifferent pu HOW MILTON CAME TO WRITE "PARADISE REGALVED."

that the poet of "Paradise Lost" took

up his abode at Chalfont, and it was through the instrumentality of a common friend of his and William Penn's that this retreat was selected. Thomas Ellwood, the Quaker, had made Milton's acquaintance in London some years before, when hunted out of house and home by the Bucks Justices, and read Latin to him in his lodgings in Jewin street. When the plague grew flerce in the city the blind poet bethought him of his one-time secretary, and asked him to find him some retreat in his neighborhood, Ellwood took this "pretty box" for him; and it was here that he suggested to him the idea of "Paradise Regained." Milton had handed him the manuscript of "Paradise Lost," to pass his judgment on. "I pleasantly said to him." Ellwood relates in his "Lafe," " Thou hast said much here of paradise lost, but what hast then to say of paradise found?' He made me no answer, but sat some time in muse: then broke off that discourse and fell upon another subject. After the sickness was over, and thecity well cleansed. he returned thither; and when afterward I went to wait on him there he showed me his second poem, called 'Paradise Regained,' and in a pleasant tone said to me, 'This is owing to you, for you put it into my head by the question you put to me at Chalfont which before I had not thought of."-Alfred T. Story, in Harper's Magazine

Tun Graphic isn't sure that the fellows who leave theaters between acts go out for whisky. Some of them probably

"YES," he cried passionately, "I love us true, so true—" "Never mind,

you so true, so true—" "Never mind, darlidg," said she, artlessly, " I'll have my troussen ordered at once."